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HONGKONG, CHINA, June 11, 1901.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the report of inspection work at this station for the week ended June 8, 1901.

Eight steamers were inspected during the week; 388 individuals were bathed and 407 bundles of clothing and bedding were disinfected by steam. There were 4 rejections during the week, 3 because of fever, and 1 who was suffering with leprosy.

Passenger traffic is very light at present as no Asiatic steerage are admitted to the Philippine Islands, and only in rare cases is it possible to supply Asiatic cabin passengers with certificates of nonexposure. Judging from the reported cases, the epidemic of plague seems to have reached the turning point, as there were 161 cases and 155 deaths reported during the week as against 215 cases and 207 deaths reported last week.

The total cases reported thus far this year are, therefore, 1,154 and 1,088 deaths. Of this number 15 were Europeans, 5 of whom died. The very high mortality among the Chinese, as shown by the figures given, is, no doubt, due to the less severe cases escaping to the mainland. Unofficial information from Canton states that plague is on the decrease, but that a number of deaths occur daily throughout the city. Plague has been especially severe in the cities of Tung Kun and Sheck Lung, on the East River. The deaths in the latter city alone have been estimated at 2,000.

Smallpox having subsided, vaccination has not been rigidly enforced this month, especially as the plague epidemic became so severe the last week in May.

Respectfully,

JOHN W. KERR, Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The Surgeon General, U.S. Marine-Hospital Service.

## COLOMBIA.

Report from Bocas del Toro-Fruit port.

BOCAS DEL TORO, COLOMBIA, July 3, 1901.

SIR: I have to make the following report of the conditions and transactions at this port during the week ended July 2, 1901:

Number of cases and deaths from yellow fever during the week, cases, 2; deaths, 1; number of cases and deaths from smallpox during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from typhus fever during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from cholera during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from plague during the week, none; number of deaths from other causes during the week, tuberculosis, 1; prevailing disease, malarial fever.

General sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week was fairly good; a very limited number of malarial cases have developed. The death from tuberculosis mentioned was that of an American, the only patient in the United Fruit Company's hospital; he died July 1, 1901. The second case of yellow fever developed in the town of Bocas del Toro.

Bills of health were issued to the following vessels: June 26, steam-ship John Wilson; crew, 17; passengers from this port, none; passengers in transit, none; pieces of baggage disinfected, none. June 29, steamship Bodo; crew 15; passengers from this port, none; passengers in transit, none; pieces of baggage disinfected, none. June 30, steamship Stillwater; crew, 27; passengers from this port, none; passengers in transit, none; pieces of baggage disinfected, none.

Respectfully, PAUL OSTERHOUT,

Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The Surgeon-General, U.S. Marine-Hospital Service.